

Amendments to the Claims:

Claim 1 **(Canceled)**

2. **(Currently amended)** The portable information processing apparatus of claim ~~1~~ 20, further comprising a waterproof mesh sheet provided to cover the first sound release holes.

3. **(Original)** The portable information processing apparatus of claim 2, wherein the pore size of the waterproof mesh sheet is 100 to 500 microns.

Claim 4 **(Canceled)**

5. **(Currently amended)** The portable information processing apparatus of claim ~~4~~ 20, wherein the first and second raised faces are provided at right and left symmetrical positions of the rear casing; ~~and~~
~~wherein the first sound release holes are provided in these raised faces.~~

6. **(Currently amended)** The portable information processing apparatus of claim ~~1~~ 20, wherein the speaker unit is provided in the rear casing by way of a sealing member.

7. **(Currently amended)** The portable information processing apparatus of claim ~~1~~ 20, further comprising sound release gaps positioned between the periphery of the display panel and the periphery of the rear casing,
wherein the sound release gaps are used for releasing sound.

8. **(Original)** The portable information processing apparatus of claim 7, further comprising a mesh sheet provided to cover the sound release gaps.

9. **(Original)** The portable information processing apparatus of claim 8, wherein the pore size of the mesh sheet is 500 to 1000 microns.

10. **(Currently amended)** The portable information processing apparatus of claim 5, wherein the first and second raised faces are in a mutually inclined relation such that a lateral distance between said first and second raised faces varies along a vertical direction of said rear casing when said display unit is unfolded in an open position relative to said main body.

11. **(Currently amended)** The portable information processing apparatus of claim ~~4~~ 20, wherein ~~the display unit has~~ second sound release holes are provided at the side ends of the a front side of said display unit.

12. **(Currently amended)** The portable information processing apparatus of claim 11, wherein the second sound release holes are provided in parts positioned at ~~the~~ right and left sides of the front side of the display unit.

13. **(Currently amended)** The portable information processing apparatus of claim 11, wherein the second sound release holes are provided in parts positioned at ~~the~~ upper and lower sides of the front side of the display unit.

14. **(Currently amended)** The portable information processing apparatus of claim ~~4~~ 20, wherein the rear casing further has a wall;
wherein a speaker box is formed of the rear casing, the first and second raised faces and the wall; and
wherein the speaker unit is provided in the speaker box.

15. **(Original)** The portable information processing apparatus of claim 14, wherein the speaker unit is fixed in the raised face.

16. **(Currently amended)** The portable information processing apparatus of claim ~~14~~ 20, wherein the rear casing is formed of magnesium alloy.

17. **(Currently amended)** The portable information processing apparatus of claim ~~14~~ 20, wherein a dimple is formed in the inside surface of the rear casing.

18. **(Currently amended)** The portable information processing apparatus of claim ~~14~~ 20, further comprising an audio amplifier for driving the speaker unit,
wherein the audio amplifier is fixed to the rear casing so that the heat is released through the rear casing.

19. **(Currently amended)** The portable information processing apparatus of claim ~~14~~ 20, wherein the speaker unit is a flat piezoelectric speaker.

20. **(New)** A portable information processing apparatus comprising:
a main body;
a display unit foldably attached to said main body and incorporating a display panel;
wherein said display unit has a rear casing;
wherein a speaker unit is contained between said rear casing and said display panel;
wherein said rear casing has an uneven surface with first and second raised faces; and
wherein first sound release holes are provided in each of said first and second raised faces of said uneven surface of said rear casing for releasing sound from said speaker unit.

21. **(New)** The portable information processing apparatus of claim 20, wherein said first and second raised faces are in mutually facing relation so that said first sound release holes in said first raised face are in mutually facing relation with said first sound release holes in said second raised face.

22. **(New)** The portable information processing apparatus of claim 20, wherein said rear casing is constructed such that said first and second raised faces are non-movably fixed in position relative to each other and relative to said display panel.